1560. *{Transferred to the 13th September,* 1991].

Shortage in Supply of Fertilizers due to Foreign Exchange Problem

1561. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to stater

(a) whether in view of the acute shortage of foreign exchange Government propose to import less quantity of fertilizers which would be resulting in shortage of fertilizers to the consumers;

(b) if so, the details of the import of different kind of fertilizers, their expected demand and proposed plan for timely supplies; and

(c) whether the recent developments in USSR would affect the import of different fertilizers and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Fertilizers are being imported in substantial quantity despite constraints of foreign exchange. Arrangements are being made towards meeting requirements of the entire year.

(b) During the year 1991-92, the total consumption of fertilizers in terms of nutrients is estimated at 135.26 lakh tonnes. During the current year, 12.79 lakh tonnes of fertilizers in terms of nutrients have been imported upto August, 1991. Efforts are being made for timely supply of fertilizers to the farmers.

(c) MMTC has been advised to keep a strict watch on the supply and shipment schedules from USSR in view of the current political situation prevailing there. The shipment schedule offered by USSR for supply of urea is extremely tight. Arrangements are being mide to lift the entire contracted Cargo within the stipulated period.

Supply of Drinking Water in Shimla

1562. SHRI CHANDAN SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleas ed to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Seventh Five Year Plan there was a scheme to provide drinking water to villages belonging to Tehsil Chirgaon, District Shimla (Himachal Pradesh);

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that people of village Thali face a lot of difficulties for getting drinking water for domestic use and for their animals; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take to provide adequate drinking water supply to the people of these villages in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Achievements in Space Research

1563. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure spent on space research during the last three years, till date;

(b) whether the achievements are commensurate to the expenditure incurred;

(c) what are the latest achievements made in space research-

(d) whether Government propose to honour the scientists engaged in space research; and

(e) if so, the number of the scientists who are in the list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) The total expenditure on space research during last three years till date is Rs. 1335 Crores.

(b) and (c) Funds allocated are judiciously spent for space research activities towards National Development. Latest achievement is the successful launch on August 29, 1991 of state-of-the-art Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS-IB), and its subsequent operationalisation in the orbit. The imageries obtained through this sattl-lite are of high quality and are comparable to the products of world class remote sensing satellites. IRS-IB is intended to replace its predecessor IRA-1A, launched on March 17, 1988. IRS-1A continues to be operational even after three years of its designed life and is expected to provide its services for one more year which is a significant achievement. Using the imageries provided by IRS-1A satellite, a large number of remote sensing applications have been operationalisea as part of the National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS). The Indian National Satellite (INSAT-1) System has been providing vital services in the areas of domestic communication. TV Broadcasting, Radio Networking, Meteorological imaging, and disaster warning.

Over the years ISRO has develop ed indigenous capability to design and fabricate sounding rockets for scientific and technological experi ments; satellite launch vehicle to launch artificial earth satellites. ISRO has now acquired the capabilities to design and fabricate highly sophisti cated state-of-the-art -satellites for applications in eommuniations, met eorology, TV broadcast, management of national natural resources and disaster warning which are of immediate relevance to the national development. In addition, capabilities have also been developed for various ground systems, satellite and rocket operation, and utilisation of space technology for a variety of applications of national relevance. The Indian Space Programme is thus playing a significant role in achieving overall development of the nation in a cost-effective and speedy manner with emphasis on self-reliance.

(d) and (e) Government has been recognising the scientists for outstanding achievements in the field of space research and this approach will continue.

विदेशी मुद्रा निवेश पर प्रतिबंध

1564. **श्री रणजीत सिंह :**
सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 10 अगस्त, 1991 के फाइनेंशियल एक्सप्रेस में "रेडटेप, कर्ब स, ब्लेम फार इन्डियाज लौस शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की अनेकों वित्तीय संस्थाओं के सहयोग से हाल ही में आयोजित गोष्ठी में शामिल आर्थिक विशेषज्ञों की यह राय थी कि प्रतिबंधात्मक नीतियां व नौकरशाही भारत में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश में अवरोधक हैं ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने वहां व्यक्त की गई इस राय पर विचार किया है और यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ; और

(घ) क्या सरकार ने भविष्य में विदेशी पूंजी निवेश के लिए वर्तमान प्रक्रियाओं को सचल बनाने के लिए कदम उठाए हैं ; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. जे. कुरियन) : (क) से (घ) सरकार को उल्लिखित समाचार की जानकारी है । देश में विदेशी पूंजी का निवेश होना कई बातों पर निर्भर करता है जिसमें विश्वव्यापी आर्थिक स्थिति आदि